

Evidence of a Sick Society **(and the day America lost its innocence)** **By J.J. Johnson 05.17.01**

And so, while much of America screams in agony that one man - Timothy McVeigh can't be killed immediately, and on live television, the world's most powerful nation can go into abject panic and chaos over something as dangerous as a bumper sticker.

Dateline, Oklahoma City - Ground zero where it has become evident that more than a truck bomb brought down the Alfred P. Murrah building, and/or other guilty parties are still among us. Rather than dealing with the reality of what may have caused all this, here's how the local government responds to what is clearly a black eye on government behavior, and "the day America lost its innocence" - about the only true news report to come out of Oklahoma City since the bombing.

On Wednesday, buildings near the Oklahoma City National Memorial were evacuated in the morning while police examined a suspicious pickup truck with a bumper sticker that mentioned Waco. The driver was detained.

The truck had several bumper stickers, including one that said "something like 'Revenge for Waco,'" police Capt. Charles Allen said.

The silver pickup also had a cross on the side and the words "Kingdom Come."

It was reported that the truck was being 'driven erratically' near the memorial on the day bomber Timothy McVeigh was to have been executed for the federal building bombing, which happens to be May 16.

The Associated Press reported that McVeigh has said the government raid on the Branch Davidian compound near Waco, Texas, was one of the reasons he bombed the Alfred P. Murrah Federal Building. No person can say they've actually heard McVeigh say this, or witness him write these things - but no matter. Since the woman in the truck only came to the memorial to mourn the victims, here's how the local authorities responded:

Police evacuated a nearby Post Office and offices at the memorial for about 2 1/2 hours before letting people return to their buildings. Two streets also were blocked off.

See what a mere bumper sticker can do?

To the rest of the world: This is what it's like to live in the good ol' U.S. of A. The woman driving the truck was detained for questioning, of course.

"There is concern because of the totality of the circumstances today," Allen said.

Wrong, Capt Allen. There is a concern because, despite unquestionable proof that the Federal Bureau of Investigation is an institution that cannot be trusted by any means, no one in government (repeat - NO ONE) dares take lawful actions against the FBI about what

happened at Mt Carmel, Texas between February 28, 1993 and April 19, 1993. Despite everything coming to the surface about the FBI, for some strange reason, the popular consensus is that the agency in question behaved in a legal manner while 80 innocent men, women and children were annihilated in a fiery inferno.

And, as proof of the FBI's 'above board' behavior, we as Americans will live in fear of our fellow Americans - more so than we fear the trusted and respected FBI. Strangely enough, however, I dare say no Americans live in fear of some paramilitary group attacking their church with military hardware, leaving parishioners in a fiery tomb. After all, we have laws to protect us against such things. So, in this 'free' nation of laws, and not of men, we live comfortably with the fact that a simple bumper sticker of a cross on the side of a pick up, can cause immediate martial law in a given area.

This should be further proof to anyone (especially OKC bombing survivors) that 'closure' will not be achieved by the death of Timothy McVeigh, if you believe that the Murrah Building was bombed due to what happened at Waco, and have now learned the true competence/integrity of those seeking 'closure' for you (The FBI and the federal government). Maybe before the government executes McVeigh, perhaps the OKC bombing survivors should get together and DEMAND that those responsible for what happened at WACO be held accountable for their actions.

Think about it. This would avoid having downtown closed off due to bumper stickers. And (if you believe the government/McVeigh line), it would also avoid former military personnel to act like soldiers on their own soil, and retaliate against a place where more loved ones may become "collateral damage".

If you happen to be an Oklahoma City Bombing survivor reading this, you have every right to be absolutely livid with the author of this commentary. But keep in mind that I did not drive nor park a Ryder truck in front of the Murrah Building. I did not drive tanks onto Mt. Carmel, nor did I have anything to do with the investigation. I didn't "lose" evidence in either case. But I'm sure that my detractors would try to find some way to hold the author responsible for all of it. They may be correct in a sense - for it is my belief that my tax dollars helped pay for it all.

In short, don't kill the messenger here. Few dare go out on a limb and voice what should be obvious to many: The same agency that conducted the final assault on Waco, the same agency that lost important document in that follow-up investigation, is the SAME agency that 'lost' important documents and evidence in the Oklahoma City Bombing. In both Waco and OKC, evidence came out that the FBI and their cohorts had either lied, covered-up evidence, or simply 'forgot' to supply important information upon legal request. If any survivor out there thinks all will be well with the world once McVeigh is dead; if you still believe the FBI on face value, then you are still being victimized, and you should be ashamed of yourself for it.

For years, hundreds of experts have done independent investigations about what happened at both Waco and Oklahoma City and even TWA Flight 800 - all independently resulting in a conclusion that did not match the findings of the omnipotent FBI. During that time, they were all lumped into one bag of "kooks", radical extremists, anti-government nutcases, etc. And the rest of America simply bought that line, refusing to admit there is a government

that has risen to work against the best interest of its employers-We the People.

Now, with the glaring fact that Timothy McVeigh is not dead, and Terry Nichols now has a valid argument for a new trial, Americans are FORCED to look at it's own 'lack of innocence'.

It's kinda like December 7, 1941 - the day 'America had to stop pretending the world was at war.'

Oklahoma City, and America: It's time to stop 'pretending' that America's government wears a white hat. It lost its innocence long before Waco.

Here's the chance for Real Americans to prove this country is a nation dedicated to living up to its own standards. Don't bother apologizing for calling us names. But your couches are getting pretty warm and Hell is getting pretty cold while you wait for the world's premiere law enforcement agency to correct itself.

As the McVeigh lawyers are now preparing the "Appeal heard 'round the world", survivors of the OKC bombing should lead the chorus for FULL DISCLOSURE of all information pertaining to the bombing. Don't be quiet about it and call a Congressman. Write up a petition. Sign it. All of you. Make it public. What have you got to lose? After all, if your lost loved one wasn't a federal agent, no one has EVER been convicted for the taking of that life - not even Timothy McVeigh. In fact, demanding to watch him die will only ensure that no person will ever be brought to justice for the other 160 who died that day. Don't pin your hopes on Terry Nichols. McVeigh 'confessed', and "there was no Joe Doe #2", remember? The Nichol's defense team will have the loudest and most valid argument to prevent the McVeigh execution.

It's up to you, America. Pointing fingers is not the way to solve serious problems. Wake up and smell the coffee. You now have a choice to deal with two realities: 1) That America's government has lost its innocence, and a severe course of correction needs to be made or...

2)...what happened at Waco and Oklahoma City are completely acceptable to American society, and there are more Timothy McVeighs out there.

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